

ROBERT SANFORD—ADMINISTRATOR DE BONIS NON OF.

[To accompany Bill H. R. No. 434.]

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MARCH 23, 1860.

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Mr. STANTON, from the Committee on Military Affairs, made the following

REPORT.

*The Committee on Military Affairs, to whom was referred the petition of John F. Sanford, administrator de bonis non of Robert Sanford, deceased, respectfully report :*

That they find from the petition and proofs in the case that the dwelling-house situated on Nomony river, in Westmoreland county, Virginia, on a farm known as "Walnut Farm," which belonged to the heirs of Robert Sanford, deceased, was at least on one occasion, prior to the time when it was destroyed, occupied by the Virginia militia as barracks; that on the 18th of July, 1814, sundry barges exceeding twenty in number, filled with British troops, passed up the Nomony river to a point above Walnut Farm.

Upon the intelligence of this ascent being disseminated through the country, a company of the 111th regiment Virginia militia was hastily collected at Walnut Farm on the next day, with a view of intercepting or annoying the enemy on their return.

On the return of the enemy the next day they landed at Walnut Farm, and on their approach to the house they were fired on by some forty or fifty of the militia who were stationed in the dwelling-house and the adjacent out-houses, who immediately retreated in consequence of the superiority of the attacking force.

The enemy immediately set fire to the dwelling-house and all the out-houses, which, with their contents, were totally destroyed.

There was no proof as to the value of the buildings, and if there was, the committee suppose it could hardly be claimed by the administrator that he was entitled to the value of them.

But the proofs show that the personal property destroyed in the dwelling-house and out-houses was worth four hundred and sixty-three dollars, for which sum a bill is herewith reported.